

**REMARKS**

**Status of Case**

Claims 4-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled. Claims 4-6, 8-11, 13-19, and 22 have been amended.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

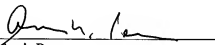
Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 4-18 contain allowable subject matter and for the allowance of claims 19-22. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have rewritten claim 4 in independent form including the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, claims 4-22 are in condition for allowance.

Please note that the cancellation of claims 1-3 is not being presented for reasons of patentability as defined in *Festo Corporation v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., Ltd.*, 234 F.3d 558, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000) (*en banc*), *overruled in part*, 535 U.S. 722 (2002). Further, claims 4-22 are currently presented in their original scope and have been amended only to incorporate features of the originally presented independent claims.

**Conclusion**

If any questions arise or issues remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at in order to expedite disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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